

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A backlight device for a transmissive liquid crystal display device includes a plurality of light sources, including a cold cathode fluorescent lamp and an LED, a liquid crystal panel, and a light guide plate. The light guide plate causes light entering into it through one surface thereof to emerge out of another surface thereof toward the liquid crystal panel. A controller for the backlight device selects at least one of the cold cathode fluorescent lamp and LED, depending on brightness required for the liquid crystal display device and determines, in accordance with the required brightness, the brightness of the selected light source to operate the light source accordingly.